

TWRC SETS 2004-2005 HUNTING SEASONS

At its meeting on May 20, 2004, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission (TWRC) set the dates for the 2004-2005 hunting seasons.

This year the major changes affected the deer season and bag limits. The most significant changes were as follows:

- Changed the first youth hunt to the last weekend in October.
- Moved opening day of the first muzzleloader season to the first Saturday in November.
- Decreased the Unit B buck limit to two per year.
- Created a new deer management unit (Unit L) with increased antlerless bag limits. Counties in this unit include Bedford, Carroll, Cheatham, Coffee, Davidson, Dickson, Fayette, Giles, Hardeman, Henry, Hickman, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lincoln, Macon, Marshall, Maury, Montgomery, Moore, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Weakley, Williamson and Wilson.

Seasons dates and bag limits for the 2004-2005 hunting seasons are as follows

Small Game:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Opens</u>	<u>Closes</u>	<u>Bag</u>
Squirrel	Aug. 28	Feb. 28	10
Spring Squirrel (2005)	May 14	June 12	10
Grouse (closed W. of I-65)	Oct. 9	Feb. 28	3
Rabbit	Nov. 13	Feb. 28	5
Quail	Nov. 13	Feb. 28	6
Dove	Sept. 1	Sept. 26	15
	Oct. 9	Oct. 24	15
	Dec. 18	Jan. 4	15
Woodcock	Oct. 23	Dec. 5	3
Wilson Snipe	Nov. 15	Feb. 28	8
Wood Duck/Teal	Sept. 11	Sept. 15	4
	(no more than 2 wood ducks)		
Canada Goose (statewide)	Sept. 1	Sept. 15	5
Raccoon (Western Unit)	Sept. 18	Feb. 15	2/person/night
(Eastern Unit)	Nov. 5	Feb. 15	1/person/night

Big Game:

Deer Unit A

Archery	Sept. 25	Oct. 29	4 deer – no more than 2 antlered
	Nov. 1	Nov. 5	
	Nov. 13	Nov. 19	

	Dec. 13	Dec. 17	
Muzzleloader/Archery	Nov. 6	Nov. 12	2 deer – no more than
1 antlered, except 1 deer (either-sex) only in Polk County.			
	Dec. 6	Dec. 12	2 deer – no more than
1 antlered, except 1 deer (antlered-only) only in Polk County.			
Gun/Muzzleloader/Archery	Nov. 20	Dec. 5	2 antlered deer
	Dec. 18	Jan. 9	
Deer Unit B			
Archery	Sept. 25	Oct. 29	2 deer either-sex
	Nov. 1	Nov. 5	
	Nov. 13	Nov. 19	
Muzzleloader/Archery	Nov. 6	Nov. 12	1 antlered deer
		(except either-sex Nov. 6-8)	
	Dec. 10	Dec. 12	1 antlered deer
Gun/Muzzleloader/Archery	Nov. 20	Nov. 28	2 antlered deer
	Dec. 18	Jan. 5	
Deer Unit L			
Archery	Sept. 25	Oct. 29	6 deer- no more
			than 2 antlered
	Nov. 1	Nov. 5	
	Nov. 13	Nov. 19	
	Dec. 13	Dec. 17	
Muzzleloader/archery	Nov. 6	Nov. 12	6 deer – no more
			than 2 Antlered
	Dec. 6	Dec. 12	
Gun/Muzzleloader/Archery	Nov. 20	Dec. 5	3 deer per day - no
	Dec. 18	Jan. 9	more than 2
			antlered

Type 94 permit required to harvest antlerless deer

Young Sportsman's Deer Hunts

Unit A & L	Oct. 30	Oct. 31	2 deer (1 antlered)
Unit B	Oct. 30	Oct. 31	1 deer either-sex
Unit A & L	Jan. 15	Jan. 16	2 deer (1 antlered)
Unit B	Jan. 15	Jan. 16	1 deer either-sex

Antlerless Only Deer Hunts: Forty -four counties are listed this year for these special hunts. They vary in number of hunts and bag limit depending on the deer population in each county. A full listing will be included in the hunting guide.

Fall Turkey Hunts:

Fifty-four counties will be open to fall turkey hunting. A full listing will be included in the hunting guide. Those 54 counties will be open for quota shotgun/archery hunting on Nov. 13-19. The same counties will also be open to non-quota archery-only hunting with a bag limit of one turkey either-sex during all archery-only deer seasons for that county. Twenty four will also be open to fall turkey hunting Dec. 13-17.

Bear

Blount, Cocke (South of I-40), Sevier, G/M/A, Sept. 27-Oct. 3 (dogs allowed).

Blount, Sevier, archery-only, Oct. 9 -17 (no dogs).

Blount, Cocke, Greene, Monroe, Sevier, Unicoi, Washington, G/M/A, Nov. 15-16 (dogs allowed).

Blount, Cocke, Greene, Monroe, Sevier, Unicoi, Washington, G/M/A, Nov. 27- 28 (no dogs).

Blount, Carter, Cocke, Greene, Johnson, Monroe, Polk (north of Hwy. 64), Sevier, Sullivan (east of I-81), Unicoi, Washington, G/M/A, Dec. 2-15 (dogs allowed).

Johnson (no dogs) Oct. 2-3 (includes private land within the Kettlefoot Bear Reserve that lies within Johnson County).

Feral Hogs

Private lands – year-round, except inholdings on Catoosa and South Cherokee. Dogs prohibited.

Public Lands – open during deer seasons (unless otherwise specified). Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area is also open from Jan. 19 – Feb. 28, 2005. Dogs prohibited.

Dogs are allowed on the following hunts:

Monroe – G/M/A, Oct. 11-18.

Blount, Sevier, Cocke (south of I-40) – G/M/A, Sept. 27 – Oct. 3.

Blount, Cocke, Greene, Monroe, Sevier, Unicoi, Washington – G/M/A, Nov. 15-16.

Blount, Cocke, Monroe, Sevier – G/M/A, Dec. 2-15.